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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
NATIONAL FOREIGN ASSESSMENT CENTER

SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS RELATED TO THE US STAND ON HUMAN RIGHTS  
(14 - 20 April 1978)

NY

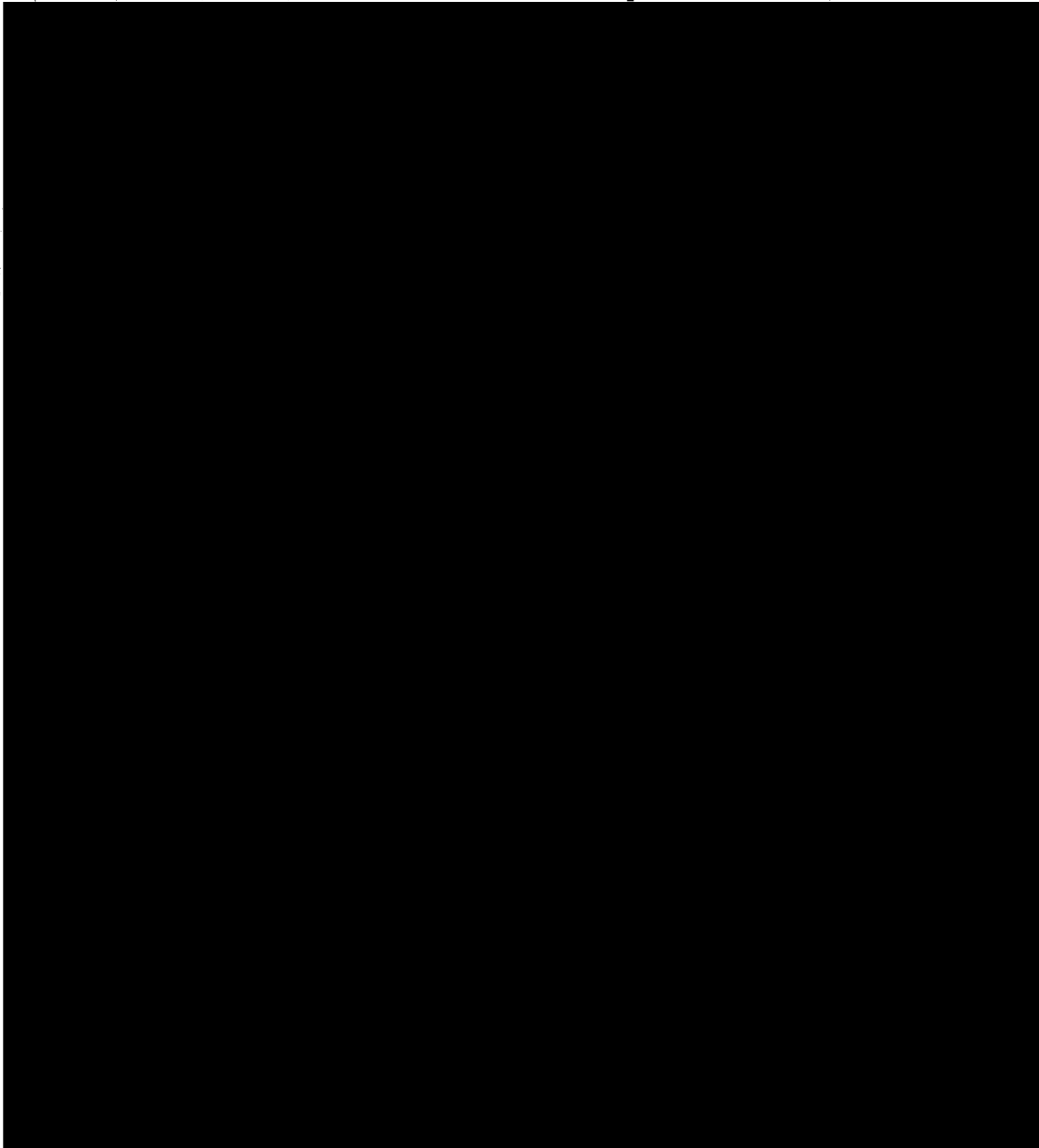
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21 April 1978

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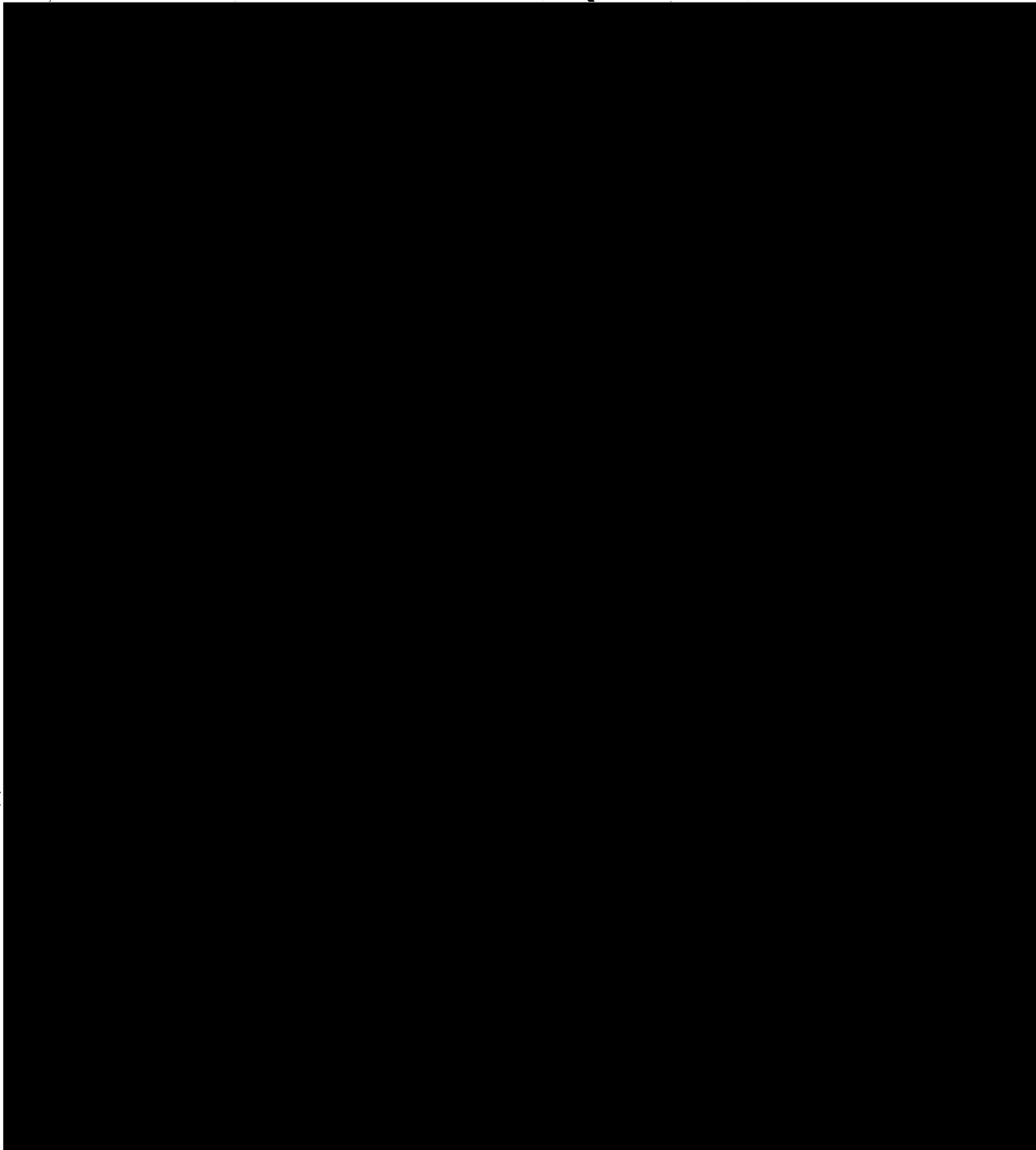
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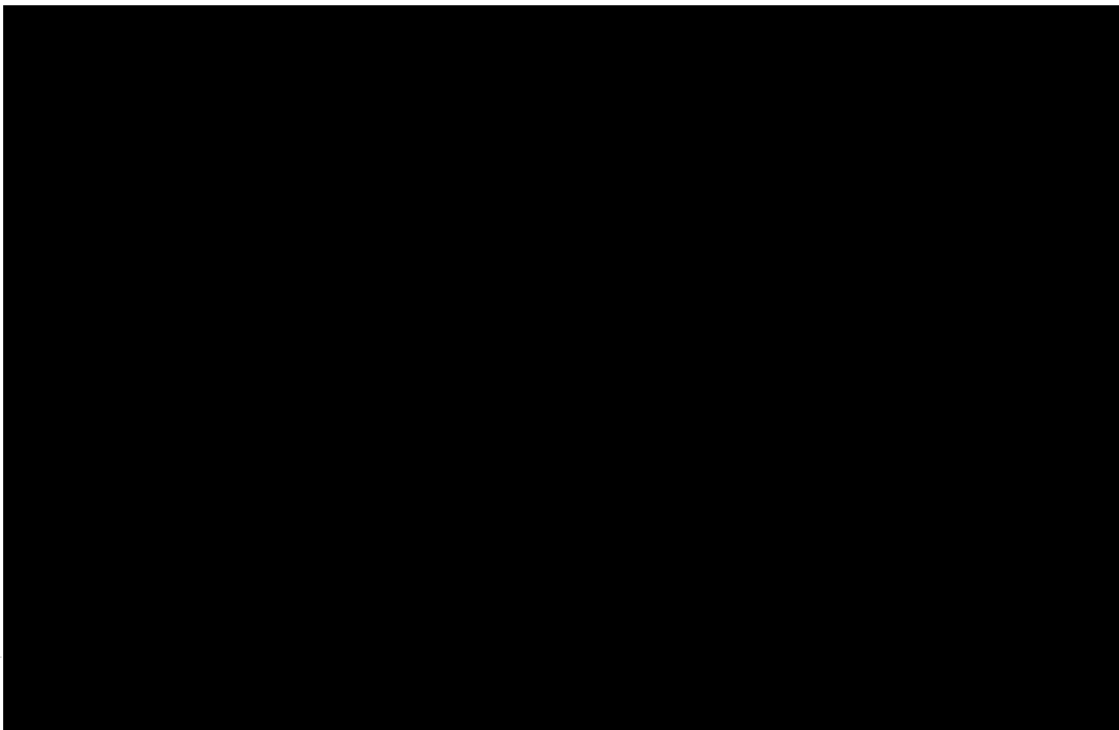
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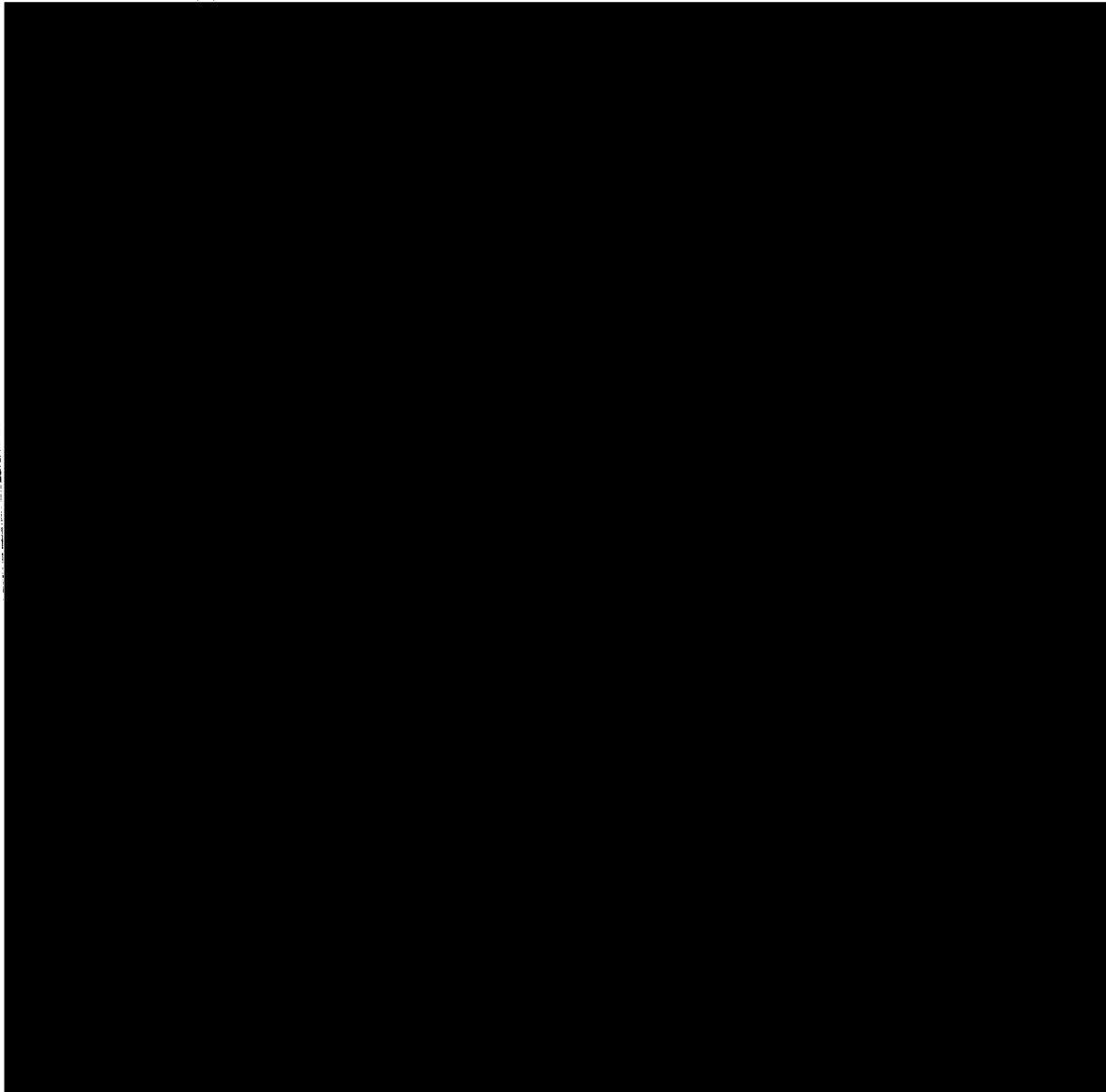
LATIN AMERICA

- *Chilean President Pinochet's intention to give the government more of a civilian cast and to take another step in improving Chile's international image partially explains the Cabinet reorganization announced on April 12. His action also may have been calculated to counter the impression that he has lost his grip on the government in the face of pressing foreign and domestic problems. In yet another move designed to generate favorable reaction abroad, Pinochet is moving forward with plans to pardon or exonerate persons convicted, paroled, or exiled internally by military courts--a measure that may ultimately benefit about 600 people. This action would clear the deck of practically all remaining cases of punishment meted out for political offenses and go a long way--in the government's view--toward accommodating longstanding demands by its critics and human rights advocates.*
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